~~Find Route of Boat~~

Hornsea

Present Dance Ety.

Present Tense Christianity.

1 Jn.5:12 He that hath the Son hath the life.

A great many people do their dreaming either in the past or in the future. Some are interested to know the beginning of things, the origin, the source from whence it came, the historical back-ground of every happening. Others look to see the distant future culmination of events, what life is going to be like in the ages to come. Xty is still interpreted largely as a promise of future rewards, the anticipations of some tomorrow.

Many devout Xns read their Bible in the same way. The whole of the Old Testament is studied in terms of prophecy, of what is going to come to pass, in terms of the coming Messiah. Then when they reach the New Testament where they find the whole of the Old Testamtant fulfilled in Jesus Christ they immediately begin to interpret the New Testament as unfulfilled prophecy, the promise of a Millenial Dawn that is going to come at some future time. Some people are far more interested in the second coming of Christ than the are in His first coming. It is not an exaggeration to say that many devout Xns are more interested to know whether you are a pre-millinarian or a post-milliarian than they are to know whether you are a genuine Xn or not.

It would be a great gain for the world if all men could come to realize that the religion of Christ is a religion for the present- not largely something of the past or more fully something for the future, but something for to-day, this very working, struggling, sinning, grace- demanding day. The Bible is primarily a Present-Tense Book. Its exhortations and promises, its commands and consolations are all for today. In addition to our present-tense text, He that hath the Son hath the Life, here are a few other Bible statements, taken from hundreds of others:

"The blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin."

"I can do all things thru Christ who strengtheneth me"

"The Lord God omnipotent reigneth"

"Who comforteth us in all our tribulation"

"All things work together for good"

"I am with you" "My peace give I unto you"

Take the greatest verse in the Bible-Jn.3:16 God so loved the world that He gave His own begotten Son that Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

2. Someone has said,"All that Xty has ever done it can do now. All that is possible to it in the exhibition of supernatural power and the largest achievement is possible now. It is time that we stopt dozing over the record of what it did ages ago, and tested its power to do greater things today. It is time that we ceased to strain our vision to catch the gleam of coming wonders when we ought to be at this moment enveloped in the blaze of pentacostal glories promised in these last, best days. Wherever the power of the Gospel is fairly tested it proves itself to be now, as heretofore, invincible".

And all that this someone has said may be stated briefly thus: The Xty of Christ is a present tense Xty.

I. The day of Salvation is in the present tense.

"Now is the accepted time, behold now is the day of salvation." Nowhere does the Bible say that God will forgive you tomorrow if you will repent tody. All the benefits of Christ's redemption are available for you now. Nor does God save you today and withhold from you the blessings of your redemption until some futute time. Thank God for a present tense salvation and a present tense blessing!

II. Eternal Life is in the present tense.

We ordinarily think of Eternal Life as our reward to be received after we die. But the Bible nowhere says that if you will accept Chrst you will come into a state of eternal life by and by. "He that hath the Son hath the Life". "He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life." Christ Himself is Eternal Life and when He dwells within you you not only possess Him but also His life which is Eternal.

III. Heaven is also in the present tense. The Bible does speak of a heaven to come but Christ made it plain to us that we dont have to die before heaven can begin within us. Sesus said,The kingdom of heaven is within you. Right now, this very day and moment we can begin to be in heaven. When we accept Christ and begin to live His way we begin to live in heaven. As someone has put it, All the way to heaven is heaven. A scotchma was asked if he ever expected to go to heaven and he replied, "Why, , mon, I live there". When Edward Payson was dying, he said,"If I had known twenty-five years ago what I know now,I might have walked in the light of the New Jerusalem all these years".

3. The heaven we are priveleged to have now and the heaven which will be ours after death is one and the same heaven, the only difference being a matter of degree. "Lay hold on eternal life". Heaven is something to get hold of now; heaven is for our daily living. Heaven is in the present tense.

IV. Duty is in the present tense.

Todays duties cannot be done tomorrow. "Workwhile it is called today; the night cometh when no man can work" All duty is in today, and what you do for your own soul and what you do for others and what you do for the world or for the church or for your community or country you must do in some today. Duty has but one tense, the present tense.

V. Truth is always and only in the present tense.

Truth is like God, the same yesterday, today and forever.

The 36 references given me for investigating into the origin of masonry. Including the most ancient oriental wisdom sources.

Some claim that before you can understand religion you must trace it back thru the ages into the dim ancient past where it is veiled in oriental mystery.

Then there are others who belittle the truth we know today because future generations will know so much more than we do.

Concerning Truth it matters but little somewhat grasp the ancient Egyptions of it, and it matters less to me what Truth any future generation is going to hold. All truth is in God and by conforming my life to God's standard of right living I will personalize all the truth that I need for daily living. Obedience to the will of God is the best grasp of Truth that a man can have.

VI. The possibilities of Life are in the present tense.

Do you hope to realize your ideals sometime in the future? Do you expext to attain you possibilities sometime tomorrow? No, you will not. Your tomorrow will be a result of your today. To the extent that you strive to realize your ideals today and make the most of your possibilities today will you hold them tomorrow. Your tomorrow is a structure that you can build only today.

Be a present tense Xn. Believe in a present tense Xty. Study a present tense Bible. Serve your God and your